

Skull: greatest length 46; basilar length 35; zygomatic breadth 25; length of upper molar series 6.5; bullæ 12.5.

*Hab.* Mala Mir, S.W. Persia.

*Type.* B.M. no. 5. 10. 4. 33. An old female. Collected by Mr. Woosnam on the 12th April, 1905, and presented to the Museum by Col. Bailward.

(35) *Tateru ceylonica*, sp. n.

52. 5. 9. 31. ♂. Ceylon (*Kelaart*).

In coloration *ceylonica* differs but little or not at all from *Cuvieri*—*i. e.*, from the specimens which I have identified as that species. It is dark cinnamon-brown along the centre of the back (probably due to the black tips of the hairs in that area), pallid along the sides. Above the eyes, and behind them to the ears and the cheeks, dull white. The following are dimensions:—

Head and body 160 mm.; tail 150; hind foot 41; ear 20.

Skull: greatest length 44; basilar length 33; zygomatic breadth 22; length of upper molar series 6; bulke 11.

*Hab.* Ceylon.

*Type.* B.M. no. 52. 5. 9. 31. An adult male. Presented to the Museum by Dr. Kelaart.

Notwithstanding its colour-resemblance it is easily distinguishable from *Cuvieri* by its extremely short tail and much shorter hind feet. The skull is about as in *Cuvieri*, but the upper molars are finer and narrower than in that or any other Asiatic form.

LXV.—*A new Genus of Free-tail Bat from N.E. Africa.*

By OLDFIELD THOMAS.

PLATYMOPS, gen. nov. (*Molossidae*).

Ears widely separated, as in *Mormopterus*. Lips without wrinkles, covered with short stout bristles. Forearms shagreened. Wings short. Metacarpal of third finger only one third longer than that of fifth; first phalanx of fifth finger much shortened, one third the length of the metacarpal and not longer than the second phalanx. A small untufted gular sac present in both sexes.

Skull of the general outline in upper view of that of *Mormopterus*, but extraordinarily flattened vertically. Crests much reduced, the sagittal absent and the lambdoid not

meeting in the middle line. Premaxillary notch narrow, not expanded behind. Mesopterygoid fossa without median bony ridge. Ramus of lower jaw very low vertically.

Incisors  $\frac{1-1}{4}$ ; the upper pair long, nearly parallel, bicuspid, the lower ones subequal, all bicuspids. No trace of a small upper premolar, though the large  $p^4$  does not touch the canine.

Type *Platymops Macmillani*.

This most remarkable bat is readily distinguishable from any member of the *Nyctinomus* group by its extraordinarily flattened head, unusual digital proportions, shortened wings, and dental formula. In this group it has a curious analogy with the Vespertilionine genus *Mimetillus*, being modified in its proportions and the shape of its head almost exactly in the same way, and having a strong superficial resemblance to it.

*Platymops Macmillani*, sp. n.

Size about as in *Mormopterus acetabulosus*, the abnormally short forearms giving a deceptive idea of the general bulk. Fur short; hairs of back about 3 mm. in length. General colour above smoky blackish, below dull whitish along the middle area, blackish along the sides. Limbs dark above, whitish below; membranes dark throughout, except that the surface near the body below is lighter, as is the extreme edge of the plagiopatagium. Ears widely separated, triangular, their anterior edge evenly convex, their tip rounded; anti-tragal notch scarcely perceptible. Tragus fairly large, quadrate, its inner edge about equal to its breadth at tip. Upper side of forearm, wrist, and basal half of third metacarpal thickly and coarsely shagreened with small round warts, very much as is the case in *Vespertilio Floweri*, de Wint. Wing-membrane attached to the distal third of the tibia. Upper side of the short lower leg flattened, finely granulated. Proximal plantar pad very prominent. Penis short, without special modifications.

Skull and teeth as described above.

Dimensions of the type (measured on the spirit-specimen):—

Forearm 32 mm.

Head and body 51; tail 27; tail free from membrane 15; ear 15; tragus on inner edge 2; third finger, metacarpus 31, first phalanx 12.5, second phalanx 11; fifth finger, metacarpus 23, first phalanx 6.5, second phalanx 6.7; lower leg 11; calcar 16.

Skull: condylo-basal length 16; basal length in middle

line 13; zygomatic breadth 11·2; breadth between preorbital processes 7·4; interorbital constriction 3·8; greatest mastoid breadth 10·2; height from basion to top of brain-case 4; palatal length in middle line 5·9; front of canine to back of  $m^3$  6; front of lower canine to back of  $m_3$  6·6.

*Hab.* N.E. Africa, between Adis Ababa and Lake Rudolf.

*Type.* Adult male. Presented by W. N. McMillan, Esq. Collected by Ph. C. Zaphiro. Seven specimens examined.

The peculiar flattening of the head of this bat—even to the abolition of the sagittal crest and the reduction in the vertical thickness of the lower jaw—probably indicates that it either lives in small cracks in trees or rocks, into which it may creep beyond reach of enemies, or else that it frequents some large-leaved plant (such as banana or cactus), between whose leaves the other bat with a similarly shagreened forearm (*Vespertilio Floweri*) was found by Mr. N. C. Rothschild.

I have named this most interesting bat in honour of Mr. W. N. McMillan, to whose liberality science is indebted for the exploration of which it is part of the outcome.

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LXVI.—*A Dwarf Form of the African Elephant.*

By Prof. TH. NOACK, of Brunswick\*.

In the summer of 1905 Herr C. Hagenbeck, of Stellingen, received a small elephant from the French Congo which differs not merely from the varieties of *Elephas africanus* described by Prof. Matschie, but from all living elephants in that it represents a dwarf form.

I propose for it the name *Elephas africanus pumilio*.

The animal was 120 cm. high at the shoulder (in the lumbar region naturally higher), and was consequently about as large as the two young African elephants figured by Heck in 'Lebende Tiere,' pp. 116 and 117, which are the types of Matschie's *Elephas cyclotis* and *E. oxyotis*. The height of the young elephant from the Cameroons in particular is stated by Dr. Heck to be also 120 cm.

In my opinion these elephants were about a year and a half old. Since they were both, as also *Elephas pumilio*, of which, through the kindness of Herr Hagenbeck, I possess two beautiful photographs, photographed together with a keeper, it is possible to form a very good estimate of their

\* Translated by E. E. Austen from the 'Zoologischer Anzeiger,' Ed. xxix. No. 20 (Jan. 8, 1906), pp. 631-633.